MINUTES OF THE SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, AND ENVIRONMENT STANDING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 26, 2010 415 State Capitol, Utah State Capitol Complex

Members Present: Sen. Dennis Stowell, Chair

Sen. Allen Christensen Sen. Margaret Dayton Sen. Karen Morgan Sen. Ralph Okerlund Sen. Gene Davis

Staff Present: J Brian Allred, Policy Analyst

Ernest Hayes, Secretary

Public Speakers Present: Kevin Carter, Director SITLA

Steve Erickson, Great Basin Waternet

Mike Eriksson, Stewardship Coordinator, Forestry and Fire

Jim Karpowitz, Director, UDWR

Joan Gallegos, Citizen

Sterling Brown, V.P. Public Policy, Utah Farm Bureau

George Chapman, Citizen

Don Peay, Consultant, Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife

A list of visitors and a copy of handouts are filed with the committee minutes.

Committee Chair Stowell called the meeting to order at 2:15pm.

1. Welcome

Committee members went through a brief introduction for all present.

2. S.B. 24 Land Exchange Distribution Account Amendments (Sen. Dennis E. Stowell)

MOTION: Sen. Stowell moved to adopt 1st substitute bill S.B. 24.

The motion passed unanimously.

Sen. Stowell introduced the bill. Kevin Carter, Director of the School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration, assisted in the presentation. Steve Erickson, representing the Great Basin Water network, spoke in support of the bill.

MOTION: Sen . Davis moved to pass 1st substitute bill S.B. 24, Land Exchange Account Amendments, out of committee with a favorable recommendation.

The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Christensen absent from the vote.

3. S.B. 36 Wolf Management (Sen. Christensen)

Sen. Dayton introduced the bill. Don Peay, consultant for Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, assisted in the presentation.

Sen. Christensen continued the introduction on the bill. Jim Karpowitz, Director of the Division of Wildlife Resources, assisted in the presentation.

Joan Gallegos, private citizen, spoke in opposition to the bill. Kirk Robinson, Director of the Western Wildlife Conservancy, spoke in opposition to the bill. Allison Jones, a conservation biologist, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Sterling Brown, Utah Farm Bureau, spoke to the bill.

Don Peay, Consultant for Sportsmen for Fish and Wildlife, spoke in favor of the bill.

George Chapman, private citizen, spoke in opposition of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Dayton moved to replace S.B. 36 with substitute S.B. 36.

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Sen. Dayton moved to pass substitute bill S.B. 36 out with a favorable recommendation.

The motion passed with Sen. Davis and Sen. Morgan voting no.

4. S.B. 97 Farmland Assessment Act Amendments (Sen. David Hinkins)

Sen. Hinkins introduced the bill. Mike Erickson, Stewardship Coordinator with the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands, assisted in the presentation.

Sen. Hinkins stated that he would prepare amendments for a future meeting.

MOTION: Sen. Davis moved to pass S.B. 97 out with a favorable recommendation.

The motion passed unanimously.

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MOTION: Sen. Davis moved to adjourn.

The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Stowell adjourned the meeting at 4:25pm.

Minutes reported by Ernest Hayes, Secretary

Dennis E. Stowell, Committee Chair